

3-26-1968

Kabul Times (March 26, 1968, vol. 7, no. 4)

Bakhtar News Agency

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/kabultimes>

 Part of the [International and Area Studies Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Bakhtar News Agency, "Kabul Times (March 26, 1968, vol. 7, no. 4)" (1968). *Kabul Times*. 1727.
<https://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/kabultimes/1727>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Digitized Newspaper Archives at DigitalCommons@UNO. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kabul Times by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UNO. For more information, please contact unodigitalcommons@unomaha.edu.



Supradyn
effervescent tablets
11 vitamins, 5 minerals
5 trace elements
in the form of a
sparkling drink

THE KABUL TIMES

Fresh vigour in
convalescence for growing
children and the elderly
easy to take

**Becozym
sirup**

VOL. VII, NO. 4

KABUL, TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 1968 (HAMAL 6, 1347 S.H.)

PRICE AF. 4

Return To Gold Standard Will Imperil World Econ. Balance

CAMBRIDGE, March 26, (Reuter).—The governor of Britain's Central Bank warned last night that failure to evolve an alternative to gold as a reserve currency could be a world calamity.

Sir Leslie O'Brien of the Bank of England said in a dinner speech here that the United States' determination to defend the present price of gold could not be firmer.

He said there were many rea-

sons for this attitude, but one was infinitely more important than all the others put together.

"This is that an increase in the price of gold would put off for many years the evolution of the international monetary system away from its total dependence on gold and reserve currencies and towards the creation of a reserve asset.

"This would be a calamity only less serious than the collapse of the present system into chaos," he added.

Sir Leslie was speaking only four days before a crucial Stockholm meeting of "Club of Ten" finance ministers—the 10 richest Western nations to discuss world monetary reform.

The meeting is scheduled to give the go-ahead to a scheme for creating new paper reserve assets, known as special drawing rights, to bolster the reserves of member states of the International Monetary Fund.

British officials fear that France which strongly supports a rise in the gold price, may obstruct agreement at the meeting.

Referring to the scheme, Sir Leslie said progress along this evolutionary path would have to be gradual and controlled so that confidence in the new reserve asset might be built up.

"Such progress would cease altogether if present reserves were vastly increased by a large increase in the price of gold and by the dishoarding of gold which would follow it," he said.

"I hope therefore that the arrangements made in Washington (the March 17 gold agreement), which have achieved a good initial success, will carry us through until the new reserve asset is available for creation."

France Steps Up Demand For Gold Standard

BRUSSELS, March 26, (Reuter).—France intensified its demand for a monetary system based on gold yesterday by calling for international talks to examine fundamental world monetary problems.

Finance Minister Michel Debre told reporters here France would only cooperate on these problems provided "durable global solution" for the fundamental problems was sought in concert by the interested countries.

He made the statement as Common Market Finance Ministers met here yesterday to discuss international monetary problems and the United States' balance of payments deficit.

Debre made clear that France will take a tough stand at Stockholm by demanding a searching inquiry into all world monetary problems, including the role of gold and the U.S. balance of payments.

The main topic on Monday's agenda was the possibility of unilateral acceleration of the Kennedy Round Tariff Cuts by the Six to help the United States overcome its balance of payments problems.

But Debre noted, "sacrifices are being asked only of European economy while it is difficult to appreciate at the moment the measures which the United States plans to take to redress its economy."

ROBLES STILL IN CONTROL OF PANAMA

PANAMA CITY, March 26, (Reuter).—President Marco Robles of Panama appeared to be firmly in control in spite of the opposition's success in impeaching him.

The National Guard—Panama's only armed force—raided the headquarters of the opposition National Union Party and arrested about 180 people, including two opposition leaders. They were apparently still being held but no charges had been brought against them.

The opposition promptly accused the commander of the National Guard, Brig. Gen. Vallarino, of carrying out a military coup and of putting the country under a state of siege.

Vallarino told a press conference, that the raid on the party headquarters was the result of stones being thrown at national guardsmen who were trying to clear the street outside to open it to traffic. He also claimed that the guards seized a dozen small arms in the raid.

The opposition said this was a lie used to justify the raid and the arrests.

The constitutional crisis stems from the opposition's charge that Robles violated the constitution by giving political support to the government candidate in the election for his successor.

Lower House Considers Medical Services

KBUL, March 26, (Bakhtar).—The Wolesi Jirga (House of Representatives) yesterday discussed a letter to the house from the Committee on Social Improvement about better medical services in the country.

Deputies proposed that specialists in various medical fields should be made available in the centre of the provinces and a larger number of smaller hospitals be opened in provincial districts.

It was decided at yesterday's meeting that Public Health Minister Miss. Kubra Nourzoi should appear in today's question hour of the house and testify on the issues raised by the Social Improvement Committee letter.

Participation of Afghanistan in the Asian Development Bank was also discussed at yesterday's sitting.

Afghanistan's share of \$4,780,000 in the bank's capital was approved by majority vote. This was already endorsed by the house's Committee on Budgetary and Financial Affairs.

The meeting was presided over by Dr. Abdul Zaher, president of the house.

America's Newest Warplane Goes Into Action In Viet.

SAIGON, March 26, (AP).—America's newest warplane, the swing-wing F 111-A, has flown first combat mission against North Vietnam, military spokesman announced Tuesday.

The mission Monday was a relatively unspectacular one—night time bombing strikes against bivouacs and storage areas in the southern end of North Vietnam.

Because of darkness and overcast skies the strikes were made wholly under controls. Pilots said their bombs were on targets but could not get an assessment of damage.

A Reuter despatch said American Marines and helicopter gunships swooped on a North Vietnamese platoon entrenched in a bunker complex near Khe Sanh yesterday and killed 31 of them in a fierce four-hour battle.

EEC Urges U.S. To Renounce Protectionist Trade Measures

BRUSSELS, March 26, (Reuter).—The Common Market last night told the United States it must renounce any protectionist trade measures before the Six would agree to accelerating Kennedy Round Tariff Cuts.

The Common Market finance minister also agreed at a one-day meeting here that the American selling price—a method whereby imported chemicals are assessed for duty on the basis of higher domestic prices—must be abolished before such a step can be taken.

All six ministers agreed to "take into consideration the possibility of accelerating" Kennedy Round Tariff Cuts to help the United States overcome its balance-of-payments deficit.

French Finance Minister Michel Debre made clear at a press conference that this represented a dramatic switch in position for France, which had previously been strongly opposed to such a step.

Earlier Debre intensified Paris's demand for a monetary system based on gold by calling for an international conference to examine fundamental world monetary and trade problems.

New Witness In Kennedy Case

NEW ORLEANS, March 26, (AFP).—District Attorney Jim Garrison ordered a new witness to give evidence in his inquiries into the murder of President John Kennedy.

She is Mrs. Ruth Paine, of Dallas, Texas, a former friend of Lee Harvey Oswald, the presumed murderer, and of his wife, Marina.

The District Attorney, alleged that Mrs. Paine, at whose home Oswald was the day before the assassination, took the murder gun from New Orleans to Dallas, where President Kennedy was killed. In principle, Mrs. Paine will make a statement on April 18 and 19.

U.S. Election Won't Affect Foreign Aid, Says AID Head

WASHINGTON, March 26, (DPA).—William S. Gaud, administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), expects the U.S. presidential elections in November will not have much effect on the future of U.S. economic assistance.

Interviewed Sunday by newsmen on a Washington telecast, Gaud noted the major announced candidates for the presidency of both the Democrat and Republican parties supported foreign economic aid in the past.

"I don't think that either side would be anxious to kill the programme in an election year," he added.

Discussing the war on hunger programme of AID Gaud, noted "I don't think the battle between food and mouths is lost yet."

"It is too early to say that it will be won, but I think it can be won," he declared.

"As far as what we are doing about it is concerned, this is our top priority, trying to increase agricultural production in the developing countries."

Gaud cited the development in the past two or three years of new and better strains of rice, wheat, corn and millet which, he said, produce two, three or four times more than the traditional varieties in most under developing countries.

"These things are paying off," Gaud noting this year India, Pakistan and Turkey will have re-

Jordan Needs All Arab Help: King Hussein

AMMAN, March 26, (AFP).—Jordan "needs the help of all the Arab countries to assist it in its resistance to continual Israeli aggression," King Hussein told the National Council.

The king presided at the council meeting which was attended by crown Prince Hassan Ben Talal, Prime Minister Bahjat Talhuni, the speakers of the two houses and some politicians.

The king reviewed the country's situation with them in the light of Israel's attack.

A communique published afterwards said: "The king stressed the necessity of a summit meeting of all Arab heads of state. The present circumstances, he declared, demanded co-ordinated efforts and the preparation of a unified Arab plan."

Afghan, USSR Diplomas To Be Equivalent

MOSCOW, March 26, (Tass).—The Soviet Union and Afghanistan decided to regard as equivalent the diplomas for secondary, specialised secondary and higher education and for scientific research.

The protocol to this effect was signed here today by representatives of the Soviet Ministry of Higher Education and the Afghan ministry of education.

The delegation led by president of Polytechnical Institute in Kabul, Dr. Abdul Azim Ziayace spent 10 days getting acquainted with the system of training specialists in the Soviet Union.

Japan To Give As Much Aid As Feasible To Indonesia

TOKYO, March 26, (Reuter).—The Japanese cabinet may agree today on the eve of the arrival here of Indonesian acting President Gen. Suharto, on how much aid to offer Indonesia in 1968.

According to unofficial Japanese reports the Foreign Ministry has recommended a loan offer of \$100 million. This is only \$10 million less than the amount that Indonesia has requested.

"The ministry is urging a generous attitude on Prime Minister Eisaku Sato, who is due to confer twice with Suharto during the General's five-day visit.

But the Finance Ministry wants to hold aid this year to \$60 million the level which last year made Japan Indonesia's largest donor of low-interest aid.

Governments sources said yesterday the government was aiming at a decision before Suharto arrived.

If there is no agreement at today's cabinet meeting it is expected that the problem will be passed to a cabinet committee of Foreign Finance and Economic Ministers for discussion over the following two days.

Japan is under American pressure to boost its aid to Indonesia, and this year's loan was reported to have been discussed in January when the U.S. Under-Secretary of State Eugene Rostow visited Tokyo to explain U.S. dollar defence measures.

Since then Japan has found itself faced with the threat of U.S. import surcharges which could have a drastic impact on Japanese exports to the United States.

However, the Foreign Ministry has officially stated that the government has decided in principle to lend Indonesia "as much as feasible", and that at this stage the issue is

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, March 26, (Reuter).—Nerve gas from a U.S. army chemical and biological testing centre near here caused the death of thousands of sheep in the Skull valley region last week, a state investigation panel said here.

Dr. D.A. Osguthorpe, veterinary consultant for Utah state university, said state investigators were as positive as medical science could be "that nerve gas tests conducted at Dugway (the army research station) killed the sheep."

not linked with Japan's balance of payments problems.

Linked with the aid issue is the thorny fishing dispute between Japan and Indonesia which has arisen since Indonesia declared the seas of its archipelago to be territorial.

After a series of arrests of Japanese vessels, with Japan refusing to concede that any waters more than three miles from national coast-lines could be territorial, drawn out negotiations at official level have produced the framework of an agreement.

For the first time Japan has agreed that its fishing vessels pay fees, which are being described as "port fees" for the use of Indonesian facilities.

Japan would like the joint communique at the end of the visit to settle both the aid and the fishing issues, but observers felt there was little likelihood of any progress on the fishing negotiations before April 1 without a major change in the Indonesian position.

An announcement on aid was considered likely because Japan would be expected to produce a pledge by April 22, when the Indonesian aid consortium meets in Rotterdam.

Sweden Reveals Role As Viet Go-Between

STOCKHOLM, March 26, (AFP).—Foreign Minister Torsten Nilsson revealed here last night that since June, 1967, Sweden had acted as a go-between and discussed a number of Vietnam peace plans with representatives of the Washington and Hanoi governments and the South Vietnam National Liberation Front.

Speaking at a branch meeting of the ruling Social Democratic Party, Nilsson said that ever since September 1965, when first contacts were established with the NLF's permanent delegation in Algiers, Sweden had tried to find a possibility for opening peace talks.

Africans Blocking UNCTAD Compromise

NEW DELHI, March 26, (AFP).—African delegations at the UNCTAD conference here yesterday were still blocking efforts to produce a compromise formula which would put a glow of success on the meagre results of this seven-week gathering.

As the conference went into its final hours, UNCTAD Secretary General Raul Prebisch was given a 24-hour extension to draw up the final, compromise document.

But Jacques Rabe Man, Amam-jara, Malagasy foreign minister spoke for many African delegation when he said: "we will not accept to be treated as the scapegoat for the failure of the conference."

But the African delegations' position is certainly causing problems. They refuse in particular to see the

final communique mention an agreement on a preferential tariff system for manufactured goods of developing countries, because this system is not amended as they have demanded to processed agricultural products.

The Africans are asking: "why stress this sole question of preferential tariffs when problems that are much more important for us such as the financing of raw material buffer stocks, remain unsolved."

The Africans stress that, in the manner in which it will emerge from this conference, the system of preferential tariffs will above all profit some Asian and Latin-American countries which are already industrialised, and which export manufactured goods.

African delegations have the impression that the compromise currently being considered will not favour them.

Reuter reports a plan for the expulsion of South Africa from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development was being discussed in the conference lobby here last night.

According to a reliable source, the African group at the conference last night drafted a resolution asking the United Nations to expel South Africa from UNCTAD because of her apartheid policies.

It was planned to present the resolution at one of the plenary sessions today—the last day of the conference.

UN Plans To Send Mission To S.W. Africa

UNITED NATIONS, March 26, (AFP).—The UN Council for Southwest Africa plans to send a mission to the territory, according to a reliable source here Monday.

The mission's task would be to report on whether or not South Africa has carried out a recent resolution demanding the release of Southwest Africans imprisoned for "terrorism" and to report generally on the situation in the territory.

South Africa does not accept the General Assembly resolution of October 1966 withdrawing its mandate over the territory. The mission will leave New York, the source said, as assurances are received that it will be admitted into South Africa, if not into Southwest Africa itself.



THE KABUL TIMES

Published every day except Friday and Afghan public holidays by the Kabul Times Publishing Agency

Food For Thought

Of all the diversions of life, there is none so proper to fill up its empty spaces as the reading of useful and entertaining authors.
Joseph Addison

Protecting Local Industries

One of the reasons that the private sector is rather slow in making large scale investments in industries is that they are not quite sure whether they can count on adequate protection from the government. And yet without the active participation of the private sector there is no hope of accelerating the process of industrialisation at least in the field of small industries. Experience shows that there has not been enough state protection for private industries in the past to ensure the continual growth of such industries.

A case in point is perhaps the Shaker Ceramics. This was a private concern established to produce chinaware for local consumption. Had the government imposed adequate tariff restrictions on the import of similar products the Shaker Ceramics may well have been urged to improve quality of its products and increase production.

Another industry which could be referred to, is the newly established bicycle assembling plant. The other day a marked reduction in the prices was announced. This means obviously that the new concern cannot compete with the imported products. Under such circumstances it is not possible for infant industries to flourish and hold their own against heavy competition of imported goods which, in most cases, are superior in quality.

The same is true of textiles. A study of imported goods show that textiles are by far the biggest item. It is obvious that there is a great market for textiles. Local industry

should be urged and even assisted to step into this market as soon as possible.

We believe that protection of this industry requires action on two fronts.

First extremely heavy tariffs should be levied on the import of fancy textiles, which cannot be provided for by the textile company and other local industries. The import of items similar to those produced locally should be either banned or high tariffs should be imposed on their import. Such a policy will create a vacuum which provides incentive for the existing concerns to expand and new ones to come into existence.

Having done this the question of raw material for textile industries and in fact any other industries will assume a great importance. According to sources of the Afghan Textile Company the expanded capacity of the mills belonging to the company will remain unutilised unless adequate supplies of cotton are made available to them.

Cotton is also one of our export items which goes to the bazaar area. Is it not possible to manipulate things in such a way that the interests of local industries are given priority? We should export only that volume of cotton which is in excess of the needs of our local industries.

In the meantime every effort should be made to increase the volume of production of cotton and other exportable items.

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Today *Isiah* carries an editorial on people's cooperation in popularisation of education. Social reforms and raise in the standards of living is not solely the responsibility of the government.

The government on its own is unable to accomplish all of what is to be done in these spheres, says the editorial.

Nevertheless the government is required to introduce better way of life to the population.

Today, all over the country, there is race to open more schools. Whenever the people meet persons in positions of responsibility, their first request is for more schools.

This is reasonable enough demand and from the government. Everyone likes to see his children educated so that they may have a secure future, and they may render their nation better service.

But, continues the editorial, only requests for opening of more schools is not enough to produce desired results. Classroom buildings, furniture, textbooks, other reading materials and school children requirements and teachers are needed if a school is to be opened, and function properly.

It is evident that the government's resources will not suffice if all of this for every single of the thousand schools is expected of it. Yet some of the school requirements such as teachers and textbooks can't be contributed by the people.

What the people can contribute, such as land for school sites, construction materials and labour for building classrooms, they have done in the past, in an increasing extent during the last several years especially.

What is now needed to spread this spirit of cooperation with the Education Ministry in setting up school, and for the government and the people to act in a planned manner so that funds from the Ministry of Education and what is contributed by the people are put to the best use, concludes the editorial.

Yesterday's *Heywad* carries an editorial stressing the need for creating incentives for greater production of karakul. Karakul is one of our traditional export items and

each brings the country a considerable amount of foreign exchange. Several times during the past few years the government has raised the price of the dollar to karakul exporters.

(The government takes all the dollar earnings of karakul exporters and pays them back in afghanis. This rate has always been much lower than the free market exchange

rate of the dollar. A few years ago it was raised to Af. 45 per dollar.) The fact that the government has raised the exchange rate to Af.55 per dollar should provide additional incentive for greater exports.

The editorial also suggested that some direct technical and monetary aid should be made available to the prime producers of karakul.

President Johnson once thought of retiring next January at the end of his White House term but is unlikely to do so now, the *Washington Post* said Friday.

It said the president's change of mind was due to senator Robert F. Kennedy's challenge for the democratic presidential nomination.

White House officials laughed off rumours that the president would not stand for re-election in November.

But "before the entry into the democratic race of senator Robert Kennedy, the president did discuss with close associates the idea of stepping aside," the *Post* said.

"High officials, in and out of the White House commented that while this might once have been a possibility they doubted very much that he would do so now in the face of the Kennedy challenge."

The newspaper also said that associates of the president believe that "the Kennedy challenge made a Johnson withdrawal unthinkable, so deep is the division between the President and the Senator."

The *Bangkok Post* said Thursday that for Indonesia nothing was more important than the success of acting president General Suharto's economic development plan, even at the expense of postponing the general elections.

The English-language newspaper commented editorially "it is a small failure, certainly not a major disaster, that the authorities have not found it possible to launch this plan without

seeking the postponement of the general elections."

The *Bangkok Post* adds that if Indonesia should learn any lesson from the past, it was that political stability depended as much on its economic recovery as on free elections.

"In Indonesia's case, the latter (elections) will be completely meaningless unless the country is on its feet again, in the economic sense, and is able to win back the confidence of the world at large as a viable trade partner and a productive field of foreign investment," it said.

Britain's attitude to the Vietnam war may undergo a change following the resignation of British Foreign Secretary George Brown, the *Saigon daily newspaper Xay Dung* said in a front page editorial Friday.

Xay Dung (construction), voice of Saigon's militant Catholics, in the first published comment on Brown's resignation, said the Vietnamese people "have lost a courageous, comprehensible, and good-hearted friend."

The newspaper described Brown as the "conscience" of Prime Minister Harold Wilson and said Wilson's conscience now no longer existed.

"This (Wilson's) conscience will no longer made him annoyed or unbearable. Let us wait and see the new attitude of the premier towards the Vietnam problem," the newspaper said.

Nothing illustrates so clearly any white Rhodesian government's dilemma on African education as the case of the Highfield Community School in Salisbury—the stress between political expedience and political ideology.

Started in 1962 with the main object of offering secondary school places to those urban African children unable to enter either of the two Salisbury government schools, teaching began in church-halls or any other available premises. Enrollment reached almost 2000.

During 1964 the then headmaster was placed under restriction and the school temporarily closed. Later it reopened under a new head and last year enrollment was just below 1000. This has now been reduced to about 700, because of a government decision last year to close forms III and IV, leaving only forms I and II. This defeats the object of providing secondary education, needless to say. Education is vocational, as well as academic.

The reopening may have been prompted by the realisation that semieducated unemployed teenagers

contributed in no small measure to the 1964 political troubles. And yet, as soon as an independent spirit becomes evident, in what after all is an independent institution, doubts again rear their official heads.

In 1965 the community school was given the loan of one of 11 primary schools closed down by the Government. The nominal rental of £ 5 was raised to £ 95 this January.

Pupils pay £4 a term (a tremendous slice of any African's meagre earnings) and the Ministry says that, as the school accounts are now satisfactory, there is no need to continue uneconomic charges. In all the Ministry wants £ 731—£552 for classrooms, £ 84 for furniture, £ 95 for use of the site.

The headmaster feared that the school would have to be closed, and pointed out that it had been operating on a shoe-string. The Ministry's action was as unexpected as it was serious. Highfield is a dynamic experiment in true community development and therefore government blessing should have been expected.

The school fees meet teachers' salaries, the cost of books and other

Malnutrition And National Development

By Alan D. Berg
PART I

New evidence suggesting a relationship between malnutrition and mental retardation should be cause for major policy concern in a number of world capitals.

The recognition that malnourished children may emerge from childhood lacking the ability to reach their full genetic intellectual potential introduces a new and perhaps frightening note into theories of national development.

The implications are ominous. For many years we have assumed that, given educational opportunities and environmental advantages, each normally born infant has every prospect of growing up to be bright and productive.

It is now suggested that malnourished children may be basically dull. The significance of this can be appreciated when we recognise that as many as two-thirds of the children of most developing countries are now suffering from some degree of malnutrition.

The relationship of malnutrition to mental growth dramatizes the issue. However, the insidious drain of malnutrition on national development takes other significant forms.

Half the deaths in the developing countries occur among children under six years of age. In certain African countries, Libya for example, a mother must have five children to assure that one reaches the age of 15.

In Northeast Brazil, 48 per cent do not survive the first year of life; by the age of four, 63 per cent have succumbed. In parts of Southeast Asia, 40 per cent of the children die of disease in their first four years. This is a proportion of deaths not reached in the United States until the age of 60.

The vast majority of these child deaths are attributed to infectious diseases. Yet most of these diseases are relatively minor childhood ailments.

The cause of the death, we now know, is not the infection itself, but usually the malnourished condition of the child when he contracted it.

In other words, malnutrition debilitates the body to such a degree that it is incapable of resisting what would otherwise be a passing infection. In a country like Ecuador, child death due to measles is more than 300 times greater (per thousand of population) than in North America. Whooping cough is still a major killer in much of the world.

Similarly, such childhood diseases as chicken pox are often fatal because of the child's malnourished condition.

For a sizable portion of the survivors, malnutrition permanently retards physical growth. In many countries the average 12-year-old has the physical stature of an eight-year old in Europe and North America. Indian nutritionist Dr. Gopalan reports that 80 per cent of preschool-aged children in the rural areas of his country suffer from malnutrition dwarfism. The effect of this on productivity and the limits it places on the individual's potential contribution to his society are obvious.

An increasing body of evidence now suggests a similar relationship between malnutrition in the early years and mental retardation.

During the months of breast feeding, children from the poorest areas grow at a rate comparable to the best nourished children elsewhere. Usually after six months of age, however, when breast milk is no longer a sufficient source of protein, growth is progressively retarded.

The result is an important and irretrievable loss of learning time during the most critical years of intellectual development. Further, some prominent nutritionists now suggest the damage may be irreparable (as is acknowledged in the case of physical retardation), even in the unlikely prospect that today's malnourished child eventually has access to proper nutrients.

Dr. Joaquin Cravioto of Mexico, a pioneer and leading researcher in the field, says "sufficient evidence is already available to show that chances of permanent damage are high."

What does this mean to national development? How much more productive is properly nourished man? How much more will a man with full mental and physical capacities contribute to his society?

Conversely, what are the costs to the society of malnutrition in the form of medical treatment, welfare-type relief and waste through death of those who have a limited number of productive years? What would be the cost/benefit ratio of a \$ 10 million investment in food enrichment, for example, as compared to other forms of development expenditure, e.g. spending the \$ 10 million for fertiliser or dams or roads or schools?

What, in fact, is the relationship of malnutrition to develop-

ment—or, more specifically, what are the economics of malnutrition?

Unfortunately, little research has been directed to these questions. The scattering of peripheral studies, however, leads to certain inferences worth noting:

1. Limited life expectancy brought about by malnutrition limits the number of productive years. Recent calculations by Dr. Eugene Cambell show that the typical worker of Southeast Brazil will—because of improved health and resulting increased average life expectancy—produce nearly five times as much during his lifetime as the average person born in nutritionally deficient Northeast Brazil.

Where malnutrition reduces life expectancy, the cost to society for education and other supporting expenses through the pre-productive years becomes proportionately more costly per year of productive output.

2. Malnutrition decreases a worker's productivity. The body, weak from lack of proper nutrients, protects itself by avoiding the expenditure of energy. This results in apathy, lethargy and lack of initiative—characteristics commonly found in poorly fed groups in protein-deficient countries.

In the past, this apparent sluggishness was frequently attributed to laziness, indolence or other so-called "ethnic traits."

The Food Agriculture Organization now reports that those countries with the lowest per capita daily protein (and caloric) consumption are also those with lowest productivity.

An interesting demonstration of the relationship was noted during the construction of the Pan American Highway. The disappointing output of local laborers was quickly remedied with the introduction of three well-balanced daily meals. Within a few months, workers averaged an increase in concrete paving from 1.8 to 5.9 cubic yards per day.

3. Malnutrition lowers a worker's resistance to disease and, relatedly, increases his rate of absenteeism from the job. Further, accident rates are higher among those who tire quickly due to malnutrition.

A study of the old East African Carrier Corps reported that those laborers who supplemented their rations with herbs and green leaves showed a lower hospitalisation rate—10 per cent compared to 40 per cent for those who did not.

Kennedy Magic Far From Dead

The centre of political interest moved Sunday to California, most important state after New York, in this year's American presidential election. There were clear signs that the magic of the Kennedy name is not dead.

President Lyndon Johnson, and the three men openly challenging him will begin their battle in earnest this week as the political campaign takes on a new clarity following months of building up.

For the republicans former Vice President Richard Nixon seemed to be the favourite candidate by an increasing margin as his only strong challenger, Governor Nelson Rockefeller, has said he will not wage an active campaign.

But it is still about five months before the Republicans meet in Miami to choose their standard bearer. In that time much could happen in American domestic politics, and much could happen on the foreign front, particularly in Vietnam, to change the situation.

Two leading Republicans, Sen-

ators Thurston Morton and Jacob Javits told a nationwide television audience Sunday that Rockefeller was the republican most likely to defeat President Johnson.

Senator Javits said he planned to nominate the governor as New York's favourite candidate for the president's post.

But main interest at present is on the Democrats—President Johnson, Senator Robert Kennedy, and Senator Eugene McCarthy.

Despite the interest aroused by McCarthy in New Hampshire primary and the wild scenes of enthusiasm which have greeted Senator Kennedy since he announced his intention to run for Presidency President Johnson is believed to be a hard man to beat.

An indication of this came Sunday in a poll conducted by the New York Times, which showed that 65 per cent of the delegates to the Democratic convention support the incumbent president.

That the magic of the Kenne-

dy name is not dead was dramatically shown Saturday night when the New York Senator took his campaign into California. In Stockton a wildly enthusiastic crowd mobbed him and almost dragged him from his car after he had addressed a rally.

Senator McCarthy, who began his campaign with the limited aim of showing his countrymen that there was a viable opposition to administration policy in Vietnam, altered his goal after his success in the New Hampshire primary and now aims at the White House itself.

Though he has remained undeterred by the entry of Senator Kennedy into the race the strength of the Kennedy machine may present him with more problems than it will President Johnson.

The first real test of the two challengers' relative strength will not come until the May primary in Indiana, the first which will ask the voters to choose the men who actually appear on the ballot.

(REUTERS)

Salisbury's Racist Priorities

Nothing illustrates so clearly any white Rhodesian government's dilemma on African education as the case of the Highfield Community School in Salisbury—the stress between political expedience and political ideology.

Started in 1962 with the main object of offering secondary school places to those urban African children unable to enter either of the two Salisbury government schools, teaching began in church-halls or any other available premises. Enrollment reached almost 2000.

During 1964 the then headmaster was placed under restriction and the school temporarily closed. Later it reopened under a new head and last year enrollment was just below 1000. This has now been reduced to about 700, because of a government decision last year to close forms III and IV, leaving only forms I and II. This defeats the object of providing secondary education, needless to say. Education is vocational, as well as academic.

The reopening may have been prompted by the realisation that semieducated unemployed teenagers contributed in no small measure to the 1964 political troubles. And yet, as soon as an independent spirit becomes evident, in what after all is an independent institution, doubts again rear their official heads.

In 1965 the community school was given the loan of one of 11 primary schools closed down by the Government. The nominal rental of £ 5 was raised to £ 95 this January.

Pupils pay £4 a term (a tremendous slice of any African's meagre earnings) and the Ministry says that, as the school accounts are now satisfactory, there is no need to continue uneconomic charges. In all the Ministry wants £ 731—£552 for classrooms, £ 84 for furniture, £ 95 for use of the site.

The headmaster feared that the school would have to be closed, and pointed out that it had been operating on a shoe-string. The Ministry's action was as unexpected as it was serious. Highfield is a dynamic experiment in true community development and therefore government blessing should have been expected.

The school fees meet teachers' salaries, the cost of books and other

overheads and cannot stretch to cover the new demands. Many teachers left better-paid government school jobs to teach in what they considered a worthwhile and important development.

Since the announcement donations have been received which at the last public count had reached £ 400. An emergency fund has been set up to channel the money towards the various priorities.

The Government's attitude to Highfield, seems to prove that African education, far from "forging ahead dynamically," is sliding downhill. It is not enough to stress the need to tap the "vast potential of African children" to foster Rhodesia's future. What is needed is practical proof. The whole concept of community development is challenged by Highfield.

More schools are needed. At present less than 2 per cent of African children at school are at high-school level. The figure for Whites is 40 per cent. In the face of such statistics, the tough measures against Highfield can be explained in political and no other terms.

(FWF)

Display: Column inch, Af. 100
(minimum seven lines per insertion)

Classified: per line, bold type Af. 20
subscription rates

Yearly Af. 1000
Half Yearly Af. 600
Quarterly Af. 300

FOREIGN

Yearly \$ 40
Half Yearly \$ 25

S. KHALIL, Editor-in-Chief

Telephone: 24047

SHAFIE RAHEL, Editor

For other numbers, first dial switch-

board number 23043, 24028, 24026

Editorial Ex. 24, 58

Circulation and Advertising
Extension 59

WHY PEOPLE TURN TO GOLD

What is money? The economists have all kinds of confusing definitions, but the ordinary man has just one—money is anything that is acceptable. If it is the shape and colour and weight and quality that "everybody" will take in return for goods, then it is a money. The moment doubt creeps in, then what used to be money turns into an ordinary commodity, and may be refused.

The world's domestic money is mostly paper, and it is acceptable because the various governments say it is so. What a "good" government this is all right—but suppose you begin to have doubts about your government? Suppose you, and many others, think it is going to fall? Or suppose the government should alter the money's value in terms of goods? Or alter money's value in terms of other countries' money? Or just lose its grip altogether, and let the country be overtaken by rapine and racketeering?

Then, if you can, you will turn to the money of other countries, whose governments are stronger and wiser. Better still, you will turn to older forms of money—things that governments or moths or weevils or mice "cannot get at." You will turn to that metal which runs in thin streaks deep in the earth, and is hacked and blasted and crushed and washed out into red, ingots about the size of a house-brick. You will lay your hands on gold.

If your government will let you (and even sometimes if it will not), you can buy it in whole ingots, in one-kilogramme or two-kilogramme bars, in strips useful for tucking into your belt or your boot-heels, and in coins. Some places sell it legally to all comers—Paris, Zurich, Hong Kong, Macao, and pretty well all over the Middle East and South-east Asia.

What price will you pay? The official world price for gold, set by the biggest holder, the United States Treasury, is \$35 a fine ounce. If you like to fly to Macao, you

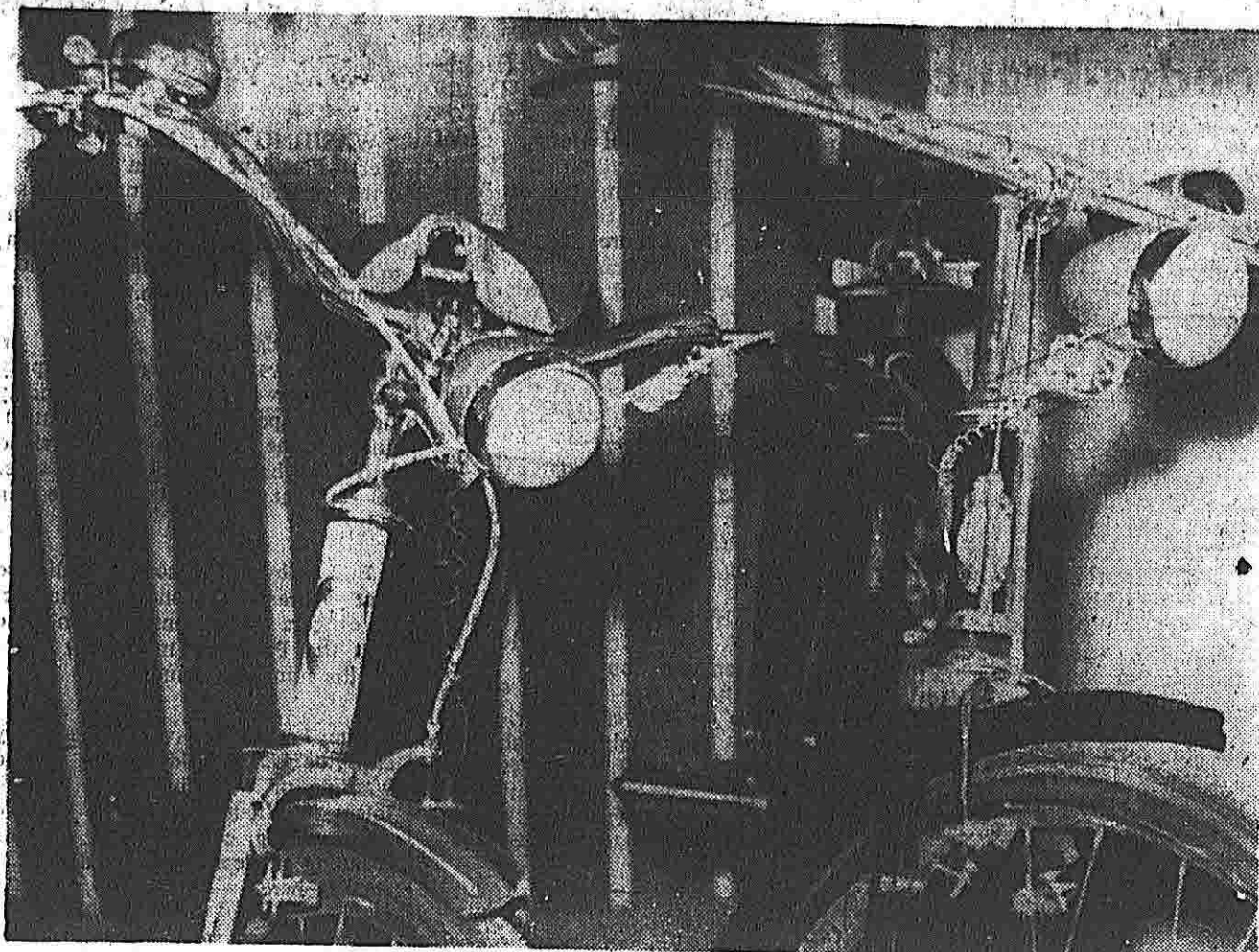
can get it for \$36 or thereabouts. But why pay more than \$35? Because the US (and Britain, and most of the world's governments, in fact) will not let you have the gold at all, unless you are a "recognised dealer", and there aren't many of those.

In Britain, the only way you can buy gold legally is to sign a form at your dentist, and have it made into a tooth filling.

So to Macao you may have to go. But if you can't quite make that, if you go to Saigon, a fine ounce of gold will cost you up to \$50, and there is roaring trade at that price. In Bombay the price varies from \$50 to \$60, depending on supplies.

In recent years the free gold market has sharply increased its activities. So much so that more gold now moves into private ownership than is dug out of the ground. Here are some figures to prove it: excluding Soviet Union the world produced 41 million ounces of new gold in 1965, and just about the same amount in 1966. But official holdings of gold by governments actually dropped—1,235 million ounces in 1965, down to 1,233 million ounces in 1966, and all last year the drain went on, reaching a peak after the devaluation of sterling.

(Continued on page 4)



The Afghan Bicycle Assem-

ly Plant has manufactured

new models for the year 1347

and has considerably reduced

the prices. The Afghan made

bicycles, the examples of

which are seen in the picture

are available in the plant.

located in Pule Charkhi, or in

its only sales outlet in Mo-

hammad Jan Khan Wat.

BUSINESS REVIEW OF THE WEEK

By A Staff Writer

The price of meat in the Kabul markets has risen from Af. 14 to Af. 20 per pound during the past week.

On Wednesday last, which was the eve of the New Year and on Thursday, which was the first day of the new year there was little mutton available. Those who did their shopping early in the morning were able to buy meat but at the exorbitant price of Af. 20. The late comers could not get meat.

Actually the shortage of mutton should have been anticipated. The Eid Adha, or the four days holiday in the country, which is based on the offering of livestock sacrifices, did a lot to reduce the supply of sheep, cows and calves in the market.

Thousands of the citizens of Kabul bought sheep and other cattle

and slaughtered them during the first three days of the holiday. Even during Eid, the price of mutton was much higher than the normal market rates because few live-stock were slaughtered by the mutton sellers in the anticipation of abundant availability of mutton in the homes.

So those who had to purchase mutton, also had to meet the inconvenience of looking for it in several markets and paying high prices.

The New Year came at the end of a long winter. The stock supplied for the winter in the city by the shopkeepers themselves and the Kabul municipality and the Kabul slaughter houses were naturally exhausted by the time the New Year came.

If Eid Adha, did not fall out right after the New Year, the supply would have met the demand.

Harsh climate conditions made it difficult for the cattle raisers in other parts of the country to rush stocks to Kabul. Mostly the transportation to Kabul from the mountain areas of the country takes place by the shepherds who walk the distance for days, weeks, and perhaps even months. Some stocks may be transported to Kabul by truck, but the quantity is very limited.

To check the price of essential commodities in the markets during holidays is indeed a very difficult task. The inspectors themselves along with the rest of the officials of the government take their holidays.

The problem now is to try to bring back the price of mutton, one of the most essential commodities after flour in this country, to its original level before Eid. The Kabul municipality has distributed its price index list to all the shops in the town, including the mutton sellers.

The lists can be seen on the wall of the shops. But despite this, no one can predict the fall of the prices in mutton once again.

Britain's 120m Temptation Days

Strikes cost Britain about 24 million working days a year and certified sickness costs industry at least 120 million working days a year—the equivalent of 475,000 workers being idle every day.

The cost to industry and economy is enormous. It also costs the taxpayer about £ 170 million in National Insurance sickness benefit for which the cheque is signed by the nation's GPs in the form of sick notes. Is this amount of sickness absence en-

tirely necessary and what can be done about it?

After an analysis of 1,300 man-years of sickness records in a large industrial complex it is clear that not only are viruses able to mutate and thus render vaccine ineffective but they are also able to distinguish between shift workers and day workers. Nor does their skill stop there for they are also able to judge on the basis of the juxtaposition of rest days, the time to strike that is most favourable to the patient.

The pattern of pay-roll sickness absence depends on the day of the week for day workers and on the particular position in the work-cycle for shift workers. Though Monday is the favourite day for day workers to fall ill (and for the population at large), shift workers only follow this when it is advantageous and hardly anybody falls ill on Monday, when it falls in the rest period even though this is a normal day for surgery. In returning to work, the day worker tends to spin out the illness until the Monday but the shift worker makes good use of shift change-over days.

True malingering in the form of the complete invention of symptoms may be rare. What certainly is common is the exploitation of trivial symptoms to obtain a doctor's sick note. Mild post-alcoholic diarrhoea demands little acting performance to be converted into gastro-enteritis and a few days off at the expense of the company and the country.

A doctor may back-date a sick note by up to six days. A remarkable number of operators see the doctor the day after a Bank Holiday or even later and get the sick note back-dated to cover at least the holiday itself.

What can be done about this exploitation without in any way

There are two ways open to bring Either leave it to time, that is, as the weather improves, more sheep will be brought to the city and abundant supply of mutton will reduce the price automatically.

Or, to increase the buffer stocks of meat. This second method is perhaps preferable. The slaughterhouses ought to sell mutton to the public at a set price.

Even in the first instance, the import of cattle from some of the provinces.

South Africa Benefits From Canal Closure

South Africa is the only country benefitting from the closure of the Suez Canal, as many more ships now have to pass round the Cape and call at South African ports.

Of about 7,000 extra ships which went round the Cape since the Canal was closed, 2,000 called at South Africa's ports, Capetown and Durban.

The East African countries are far from happy about the diminishing prospects of a re-opening of the Suez Canal in sea freight charges between East Africa and Europe on 1 January, 1968, was announced by the East African Conference Lines at the end of September.

But the rise is likely to be deferred for a short while if the present 15 per cent Suez deviation surcharge is still operating. Somalia is particularly badly hit by the Canal closure.

Bananas are Somalia's significant export, all sold to Italy under a long-term agreement. Tanzania sisal, Uganda cotton and Kenya coffee are other important exports which now have to go round the Cape.

The blocking of the Canal has caused sufferings to the people of India and Pakistan. Grain shipments from America and Canada—and other food supplies cost India 17 per cent more in freight and insurance rates, and at the end of the first half of 1968 the closure of the canal will add more than 300 million dollars to India's bill.

Indian iron ore for Yugoslavia and exports to other East European countries are affected by delays and higher costs. An increase of 30 per cent in freight rates to these countries is making Indian goods less and less competitive.

Only a few weeks after the five-day Israeli-Arab war the Nairobi East African Standard said that "the shipping lines using the alternative route round the Cape may continue to do so, in order to avoid falling victims to political blackmail."

Revenue in millions is lost by the UAR and, Soviet supplies for Vietnam are being delayed by the longer sea voyage.

(LIONS FEATURES)

Letter To Editor

New Facts About ATC

Dear Sir:

It was to our surprise and astonishment to read an article under the heading "Afghan Textile Co. has 5 million metres unsold pieces" published in the Kabul Times dated February 6, 1968.

In brief the article has touched upon the following points:

1—A part of the consignment was spoiled by moisture.

2—The ATC authorities fixed the price of one material at Af. 17 per metre, hampering sales.

3—General inspection of the Gulbahar warehouses.

4—Policies of the firm and loss of its market.

5—Doubling the annual production to 40 million metres.

Now we wish to present our version of facts about each one of the five points mentioned above and would like the kind readers of the Kabul Times to compare these with the facts and figures given in the article by the staff writer of the Kabul Times.

1—Cotton piece-goods warehouses in Gulbahar are designed and built in such a way that moisture cannot possibly spoil products stored there for seasonal sales. We invite all those interested to visit our warehouses and examine the precautions taken, and we are sure that after examination of our storage facilities they would confess that allegations about our products being spoiled in the warehouses are unfounded.

2—We do have one type of printed cloth priced Af. 17-per metre but the maximum production of this material has never been over 30,000 metres per year. Therefore, the sales conditions of such a limited production could not possibly cause accumulation of the stock to be rotted in the warehouse as claimed by the writer of the article.

3—Considering the rise in salaries, wages, prices of cotton, foreign currency etc., we have maintained the price of 90 per cent of our products such as taffetas, white and grey cloth at the same level for the last 8 years. In comparison with the price fluctuation of consumer goods during these years this, we believe, is a good record.

3—Of the inspecting team, claimed by the writer to have been sent to Gulbahar and as he puts it to separate the good materials from the spoiled ones, we have no idea. It has to be mentioned however, that we had recently summoned all our sales directors from different provinces for consultation with regard to our production programme for the year 1347.

With regards to the advertisements in Kabul newspapers offering cheaper prices, we have to mention that as in every textile mill we also have cloth ranging in length from 10 to 40 cm, and from 40 cm. to 4 metres damaged in weaving, finishing and dyeing process which are sold at the year end in auction just as we sell our waste yarn, waste cotton, used spare parts, empty barrels etc.

4—The wholesale and retail policies of the Afghan Textile Company are based on its long experience of 31 years during which experiments have been conducted with the wholesalers, retailers, markets, seasons and other variable factors.

Therefore, our present policy to deal in cash could by no means be interpreted as lack of confidence in our customers. We dare say that to the best of our knowledge dealing in cash is the standard policy of all producers. However, it should be mentioned that the Draft-Payment guaranteed by a reputed bank, is another way of payment which is not yet customary in Afghanistan.

Our wholesale consignments range from Af. 20,000 to 100,000 worth of cloth depending on the size and market of the city concerned.

The commission of 1 per cent for the wholesalers and 3 per cent for the retailers is approved and enforced by the government.

Regardless of transportation costs, we sell our products at a

(Continued on page 4)

Free Exchange Rates At

D'Afghanistan Bank

KABUL, March 26.—The following are the exchange rates of the D'Afghanistan Bank expressed in Afghani per unit of foreign currency:

Buying	Selling
Af. 76.00 (per U.S. dollar)	Af. 77.00
Af. 132.40 (per sterling pound)	Af. 131.00
Af. 1900.00 (per hundred DM)	Af. 1925.00
Af. 1538.46 (per hundred French franc)	Af. 1553.71
Af. 1769.42 (per hundred Swiss franc)	Af. 1992.79

(Continued on page 4)



The Hotel Management School, established some years back, has so far graduated a number of waiters for the growing number of hotels in the country. This year the school intends to enrol girls for the first time, to be ready for service in hotels like these boys in the picture.

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

Gold Standard Unfit For World Econ., Mendes-France

GRENOBLE, France, March 26. (AFP). Former French Premier Pierre Mendes-France charged Monday that a return to the gold standard would only widen the gap between the rich and the poor nations.

Addressing a group of political science students at the University of Grenoble, the leftist said: "It is known that the French chief of state is not particularly interested in economic and monetary questions and it is not incorrect to assume that the interest he has shown in these matters since 1963 has not been without certain ulterior motives."

"The first time the president of the French Republic stated that France was going to exchange the following week \$ 150,000,000 for gold—which is no great matter."

"Instead of operating with the usual discretion, the spotlights were thrust upon the matter during an official press conference," he continued.

The long-time opponent to President de Gaulle added: "It is

certain that this provoked a shock in the market. The next week the gold reserves at Fort Kno did not drop by \$ 150,000,000, but by \$ 500,000,000."

Mendes-France, a lawyer and economist headed the French delegation to the 1944 Bretton Woods conference where the bases of the current monetary system were established.

He emphasised that the monetary system recently launched by the nations contributing to the gold would not be expected to last very long.

"There is reason to believe that this system will be replaced by something more solid and more definite," he said.

Mendes-France continued: "There is in France an eminent economist, Monsieur Jacques Rueff, who is an advocate of the gold standard. He is the only one in the world."

"But he has convinced Gen. de Gaulle," he said.

U.S. Senate Warns Of Possible New Crisis To Dollar

WASHINGTON, March 26. (Reuters). A senior U.S. Senator warned his colleagues yesterday that if Congress does not pass a tax increase soon the dollar could face a new crisis when the London gold market re-opens on April 1.

"I hate to think what will happen on the London gold market on April 1 if we don't get our own house in order," Sen. George A. Smathers, the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee, told the Senate.

Smathers' warning came as the Senate opened debate on legislation he is helping to sponsor, calling for a 10 per cent tax surcharge on personal and corporate income coupled with fiscal 1969 spending reductions of \$ 6,000 million.

The proposal is similar to a plan outlined last year by the Johnson administration, but repeatedly blocked by the tax-writing House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee.

The Senate plan, supported by many majority Democrats and minority Republicans, is to attach the surtax to a pending bill extending the present level of motor car and telephone excise taxes beyond April 1.

Such action would be a slap in the face at the House Ways and Means Committee and its powerful chairman, representative Wilbur Mills who is not yet convinced that the administration has made a valid case for a tax boost.

Observers said the vote on the tax surcharge amendment, expected later this week, would be close.

Administration officials have argued for months that the surtax is urgently needed to break an inflationary economy at home and to demonstrate to the world that the U.S. is acting responsibly to protect the dollar's stability.

Smathers said if the U.S. failed to pass a tax bill within the next few days, the faith of central bankers in the dollar would be shaken and the U.S. gold supply would again be endangered.

Imports Exports,

(Continued from page 3)

There are at least 43 million ounces going every year into private hands. At the Saigon price this would mean that people have paid recently up to \$215 million a year to have gold in their hands instead of commodities or local currencies.

The reason why they are doing it does not say much for people's opinions of governments. It is a vote of "no confidence". It means that people are willing to give up goods at a cheap price (by paying high prices for gold), and take up something which they cannot eat, or get any income from—a "dead" metal—when they do not trust governments to control the force of disruption or to prevent inflation.

Gold

(Continued from page 3)

led about Af. one and half million worth of import goods and fetched about Af. half million in duties.

The main export and imports items included radio receivers, tea, and fruits.

The Kunduz Customs House exported more than 300 tons of cotton to the Soviet Union during the week ending March 20, 1968 valued at more than Af. 4,000,000 and brought the Customs more than Af. half million in duties.

The main import items included textiles, tea, sugar, kerosene and provisions.

Home Briefs

KABUL, March 26. (Bakhtar).—Mohammad Ayub, Director of Agricultural Research Department, and Abdul Hafiz, Chief of Wheat Improvement Programme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation left Kabul yesterday for Lahore to participate in an international seminar on wheat and barley. The three week seminar which is attended by specialists from 12 nations is sponsored by the World Food and Agriculture programme.

KALAT, March 26. (Bakhtar).—An eight member team from the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation arrived for spraying trees against termites.

KANDAHAR, March 26. (Bakhtar).—A discussion and demonstration seminar on new teaching methods was opened yesterday here by Governor Dr. Abdul Rahim. The seminar which is attended by 120 teachers from Kandahar schools is taught by Education Ministry and UNESCO experts. The seminar will last a week.

HERAT, March 26. (Bakhtar).—The Foshan primary school in Zandajan was also raised to middle school level yesterday. Forty graduates of sixth grade entered the seventh class. The school was formed 10 years ago.

World News In Brief

TOKYO, March 26. (AFP).—Three persons were killed and 43 injured, and 1,046 houses were destroyed in two strong earthquakes in the southwestern part of Kyushu Monday, the national police agency announced.

In addition to the two major tremors a series of 35 smaller ones shook the area throughout the day.

DAMASCUS, March 26. (Reuters).—Marchal Andrei Grechko, the Soviet defence minister, Monday began a five-day official visit to Syria, following a similar visit to Iraq.

PARIS, March 26. (Reuters).—The price of gold increased further on the Paris bullion market yesterday in active trading, dealers reported. The one-kilo ingot rose to 6,235 francs from Friday's closing price of 6,185 francs.

ROME, March 26. (AFP).—King Constantine of Greece left here last night by air for Zurich, where he will have a medical check. He was accompanied by his wife, queen Anne-Marie.

BEIRUT, March 26. (Reuters).—Lebanese deputy premier and foreign minister Fuad Bturos lost his parliamentary seat in yesterday's general elections, official results showed.

Rashid Beidoun, minister of justice, posts and telegraphs, also failed to retain his place in the 99-member chamber of deputies, Lebanon's single-house parliament.

ANKARA, March 26. (AP).—A Turko-Soviet accord for the construction by the USSR of a dam and hydro-electric power station at Oymapinar in southern Turkey was signed here yesterday by officials of the two countries.

The project, designed to furnish 1,500 million kilowatts a year to the surrounding area including the aluminium mill at Seydisehir, is the biggest of its kind in the Middle East.

The others, whose total value will be about 350 million, will include a petroleum refinery, a factory for making sulphuric acid and fibre panels in various parts of Turkey.

LONDON, March 26. (AFP).—The House of Commons last night adopted the austerity budget proposals presented on March 13 by Chancellor of the Exchequer Roy Jenkins. Voting was 332 to 248, a government majority of 84.

Further Recovery Predicted

W. European Economy Growing: UN Report

GENEVA, March 26. (Reuters).—It would be tragic if failure to solve the world's grave monetary difficulties were to jeopardise Western Europe's burgeoning economic upsurge, a United Nations report said today.

Economic growth in Western Europe in 1968 could well be more than the predicted four per cent. According to the Economic Commission for Europe.

"At present, the prospect for the coming 12 months is for a further quickening and widening of the recovery now apparent in the larger economies (of Western Europe) and beginning to spread to some of the smaller ones," the report said.

However, although the value of international cooperation in the formation of economic policy had been understood in recent years, its application had been limited, it said.

Military Talents Being Studied For Westmoreland's Successor

WASHINGTON, March 26. (Reuters).—President Johnson was reported yesterday to be making a searching study of U.S. military talent before naming a successor to Gen. William C. Westmoreland as field commander in Vietnam.

Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, an armoured warfare expert and deputy commander in Saigon, was widely tipped in speculation as the front-runner for the job when Westmoreland leaves to become U.S. army chief of staff at the Pentagon here in July.

But authoritative sources indicated that Abrams was one of a number of officers under consideration and that the President might not make up his mind for some time.

The President, who yesterday said the U.S. would not be found wanting or wavering in its commitment in Vietnam intended to hold wide-ranging consultations before reaching a decision, according to sources here.

The sources said he would name the new commander after hearing the views of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, retiring army chief of staff Gen. Harold K. Johnson, Abrams, and Lt. Gen. Bruce Palmer, who

holds the No. 3 post in the Vietnam command.

The identity of the new commander was awaited with keen interest for possible clues to changes in the conduct of the war.

London Women Protest Against Vietnam War

HAMBURG, Germany, March 26. (DPA).—Several European capitals were the scene of demonstrations against the war in Vietnam over the weekend.

On Sunday, 350 women in mourning assembled in front of the U.S. Embassy in London where they handed over a letter addressed to President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Afterwards the women marched to the Prime Ministers office at Ten, Downing Street, to appeal to the British government to disassociate itself from the United States Vietnam policy.

At the same time, some 800 young members of the Organisation for Atomic Disarmament participated in an anti-Vietnam rally in the government district. Both demonstrations went off without incidents.

On the previous day, protest demonstrations against the Vietnam war were observed in Paris, and West Berlin.

About 3,500 people took part in the West Berlin event which culminated in a rally in the city's western centre.

About thirty renowned writers, scientists and artists, including author Jean Paul Sartre attended a meeting of 5,000 people, together with North Vietnamese Delegate-General Mai Van Bo on the Paris exhibition grounds.

The participants demanded an international meeting of intellectuals in support of the "Vietnamese peoples liberation struggle."

In Rome traffic collapsed temporarily in the centre the same day, when hundreds of leftist youths held an anti-American Vietnam rally. A number of them clashed with police when some young people tried to enter a big hotel.

UK's 120m Temptation Days

(Continued from page 3)

the doctor's surgery not worth the effort.

With convalescence the restricted sick note could also be of tremendous benefit in getting the patient back to useful work earlier and allowing him progressively to resume his normal work whatever it might have been.

If a man is only fit for part-time work, it should be possible for the National Insurance to pay the difference between the wages the man is able to earn and those to which he would be entitled under full benefit when unfit.

The current sickness benefit regulations count Saturdays as working days even though the five-day week has been in very wide use for many years. This means that the patient has an incentive to get the doctor to sign him as fit to resume on Monday rather than Saturday.

Though effectively both mean resuming work on a Monday, the former entitles the patient to benefit for Saturday despite the fact that he would not be working then even if he were fit. This could readily be remedied by restricting benefit to the

days of the five-day week and making a pro rata increase in the rate of daily benefit.

These changes would require government action but the principal effort in reducing unnecessary sickness absence must be with the employers. They must ensure that their sick pay schemes, bonus arrangements and general administrative methods do not actually increase the incentive to pester the doctor for a sick note on the flimsiest excuse.

Given the right administrative set-up, it is up to the manager and foreman to know the patterns of absence and what I would describe as the "temptation days" peculiar to the particular method of working when there is a particular incentive to go sick, resume work, refrain from resuming work or even to go absent without pay.

Knowing the reasons for various types of absence good management with union co-operation can reduce the numbers who successfully avoid work when fit, and the more bad time-keepers that are eliminated, the more likely are the conscientious to remain so.

(THE SUNDAY TIMES)

FRG DENIES ARMS SUPPLY TO S. VIETNAM

BONN, March 26. (AFP).—The West German government yesterday categorically denied supplying any military aid to South Vietnam.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman said Hanoi allegations that Bonn had sent 2,500 "specialists" to South Vietnam, including 150 helicopter pilots, were "false and invented from beginning to end."

The spokesman said that the only aid sent was of a humanitarian kind and supplied by private organisations like the Red Cross.

He added that West Germany's "military presence" in South Vietnam amounted to only two persons, the military attache and a sergeant-major on his secretarial staff.

The spokesman also gave details of about 200 West Germans over which Saigon had jurisdiction.

They included 79 members of the crew of the hospital ship Heigoland, based at Da Nang, 49 male nurses and assistants, 20 representatives of the international social assistance department, 30 to 40 merchants and businessmen, and a few press correspondents.

Public Support Of War In U.S. Hits 2nd Low

WASHINGTON, March 26. (Reuters). Public support of U.S. policy in Vietnam has dropped to the second lowest level of the war, an opinion survey revealed yesterday.

The Louis Harris poll showed that only 54 per cent of the American public favours present administration policy, compared to 74 per cent six weeks ago. The lowest point was reached last October when 15 per cent expressed a favourable view.

"The prevailing feeling in the country now must be described as one of deep frustration," the poll stated. "Yet it is clear that in its current mood the public is hesitant to escalate the present military effort."

Other results of the survey revealed that:

—The public is opposed 52 to 31 per cent to sending an additional 100,000 troops to Vietnam.

—Confidence in the performance of Gen. William Westmoreland, commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam, has slipped to 52 per cent, compared to 68 per cent earlier as a result of the recent Viet Cong Tet offensive.

PLO CLAIMS 16 ISRAELIS

IN MARCH

BEIRUT, March 26. (Reuters).—Members of the Arab Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have so far this month killed 16 Israeli troops and civilians, wounded eight others, and destroyed several vehicles, according to communiques issued here Monday by the PLO command.

From Tel Aviv Reuter reported Monday an Israeli patrol killed two of a band of Arab nationalists which crossed the river Jordan near Um-Zuz Ford Sunday.

The Ford is south of Beit Shean Valley. Observers in Tel Aviv noted a shift in the activities of Arab nationalists in the northern sector of the river since the Israeli military strike at Karameh and bases south of the Dead Sea last Thursday.

Cases of firing from across the river, as well as incursions by bands on the West Bank, were chiefly confined in the past few days to the sector of the Beit Shean Valley, south of the Sea of Galilee, they said.

Wanted one English translator. Knowledge of English or Dari typing preferable. Contact Accounts Department, Ministry of Finance.

HOUSE TO LET

A modern double-storey house near the Indian Embassy is to let. This is suitable for residence with its western style baths. Interested parties may contact: phone No. 23140 from 11 to 12 a.m. phone No. 21390 from 1 to 2 p.m.

Weather Forecast

Skies in the central northern and Western regions will be cloudy and in the Eastern region clear. Yesterday the warmest area was Jalalabad with a high of 21 C, 70 F. And the coldest was North Salang with a low of -11 C, 12 F.

The temperature in Kabul at 1:00 p.m. was 13 C, 55 F. Kabul will be cloudy with wind and chances of rain. Wind speed in Kabul was recorded at 15 knots.

Yesterday's temperatures:

Kabul	14 C	2 C
	57 F	36 F
Kandahar	20 C	8 C
	68 F	48 F
Mazare Sharif	13 C	4 C
	55 F	39 F
Herat	11 C	2 C
	52 F	35 F
Kunduz	11 C	7 C
	52 F	44 F
Ghazni	13 C	-1 C
	55 F	30 F
Baghlan	12 C	7 C
	53 F	44 F
South Salang	-2 C	-8 C
	28 F	17 F
Gardiz	12 C	1 C
	53 F	34 F



PARK CINEMA:
At 21, 54 9 and 10 p.m. American film
(THE POPPY IS ALSO FLOWERING)

with Yul Brynner, Omar Sharif, and Nadia Tiller and Rita Hayworth.

ARIANA CINEMA:
At 2, 5, 7 1/2 p.m. American Film
(THE POPPY IS ALSO FLOWERING)